Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing closed bacterial ghosts comprising bringing bacterial ghosts exhibiting a lysis tunnel into contact with carrier materials having at least one surface under conditions under which closure of the bacterial ghosts takes place,

wherein the closure is mediated by way of specific interactions between the partners of a bioaffinity binding pair, wherein a plurality of a first type of said partners (P1) is anchored on the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and a plurality of a second type of said partners (P2) is anchored on the carrier materials and the closure takes place by way of P1-P2 interaction, wherein said partners (P1) are anchored to the lysis tunnel of said ghosts and said partners (P2) are anchored to the surface of said carrier materials to mediate closure.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the partners of the bioaffinity binding pair are selected from the group consisting of biotin/streptavidin, biotin/avidin, biotin analogues/streptavidin, biotin analogues/avidin, hapten/antibodies, hapten/antibody fragments, saccharide/lectin, and ligand/receptor.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2,

characterized in that

the bioaffinity binding pair employed is biotin/streptavidin.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the ghosts are prepared from Gram-negative bacteria.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the ghosts are prepared from recombinant bacteria containing heterologous membrane polypeptides.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the carrier materials are lipid vesicles.

10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 9,

characterized in that

the lipid vesicles employed are vesicles from homogenized cells, in particular bacterial cells, liposomes or membrane-enveloped viruses.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, furthermore comprising an at least partial fusion of the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and the membrane of the lipid vesicles.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,
further comprising the packing of active compounds into the bacterial ghosts.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A closed bacterial ghost which can be obtained by the method as claimed in claim 1, with the closure being mediated by way of specific interactions between partners of a bioaffinity binding pair.

15. (Original) The closed bacterial ghost as claimed in claim 14,
characterized in that
it comprises a membrane which is at least partially intact.

16. (Previously Presented) The closed bacterial ghost as claimed in claim 14,
characterized in that
it comprises at least one encapsulated active compound.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said active compounds are selected from the group consisting of pharmacologically active substances, genetic material, cell components, labeling substances, vaccines, dyes and combinations thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said active compounds are selected from the group consisting of insecticides, herbicides, nematocides, enzymes for soil improvement, fertilizers, growth promoters and water-binding proteins, and combinations thereof.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing closed bacterial ghosts comprising bringing bacterial ghosts exhibiting a lysis tunnel into contact with carrier materials having at least one surface under conditions under which closure of the bacterial ghosts takes place, wherein the closure is mediated by way of specific interactions between the partners of a bioaffinity binding pair, wherein a plurality of a first type of said partners (P1) of the bioaffinity pair is anchored to the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and the carrier material and a plurality of a second type of said partners (P2) of the bioaffinity pair is present in free form and the closure takes place by way of a P1-P2-P1 interaction, wherein said partners of type (P1) are anchored to the lysis tunnel and to the surface of said carrier materials to mediate closure.